

Creating Button Links

It's important to note that this tutorial was created utilizing Notepad++ and the Google Chrome web browser. If you're not using both of the aforementioned programs, your screens will not look exactly the same, and you may need to do some looking around for what you need.

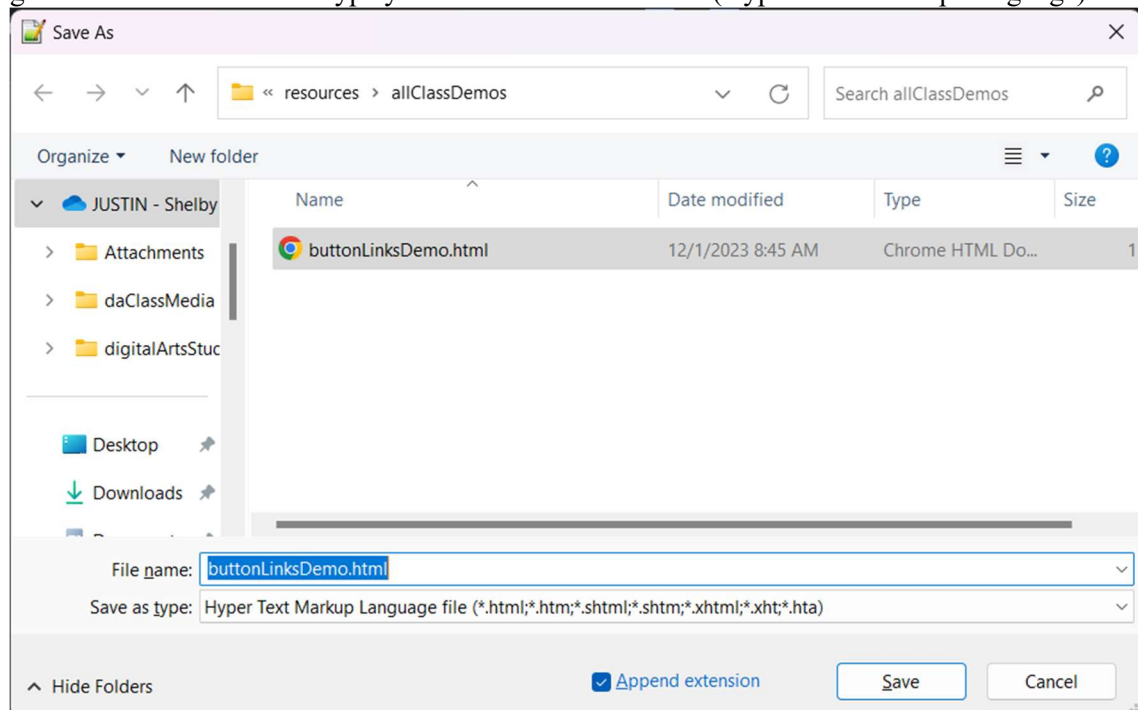
While there are multiple ways to style any given HTML element in CSS, this will be a walkthrough of a rounded button that changes on hover. This assignment will expose you to flex elements, transitions, and the hover state.

1. First thing you need to do is create an HTML file with the following code:

```
<!doctype html>
<head>
  <title>Button Links Demo</title>
</head>
<body>
  <div id="navigation">
    <a href="#">Link 1</a>
    <a href="#">Link 2</a>
    <a href="#">Link 3</a>
  </div>
</body>
```

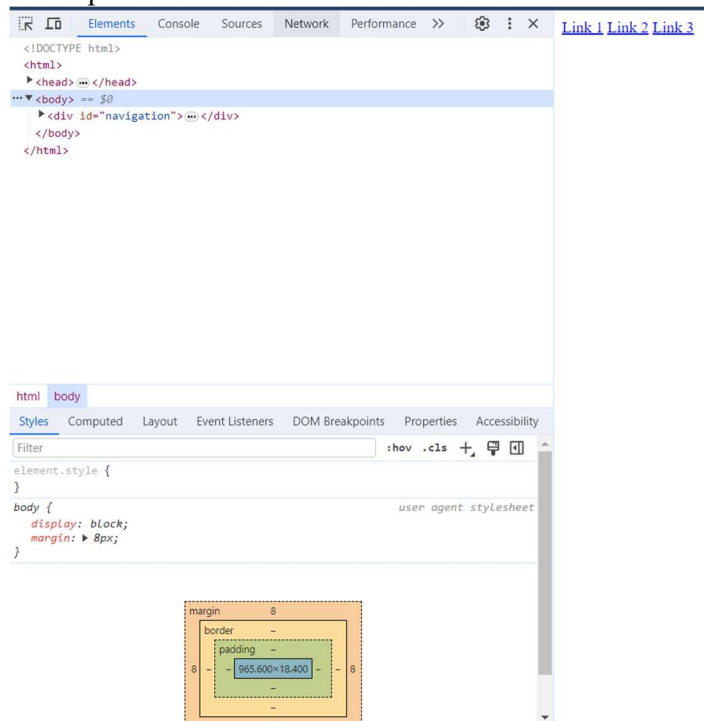
This will be the foundation for all our styling. You can remove the “Demo” portion of the title if you'd like.

2. Save the document somewhere you can find it, preferably in your “Documents” folder on the computer or the Desktop. Just make sure you create a folder for the file related to this project to go into. Make sure the file type you save it as is set to .html (Hyper Text Markup Language).



3. Next, open the file in your web browser of choice, and once you're in the file in the web browser, hold the Ctrl and Shift keys and press the letter I on the keyboard. That will open up your

developer tools.



It may or may not open to a welcome screen, depending on which browser you use and if it's your first time opening the developer tools. At the end of the day, you're looking for the elements tab across the top of the developer windowpane.

- Click the line that has `<div id="navigation">...</div>`, and while that is highlighted click the plus (+) icon in the styles section at the bottom. That will both add a new style rule and create a new inspector style sheet that we can use to edit the page.
- Click the new link created for the inspector style sheet to be moved to the CSS editor in the "Sources" tab. It will be the black underlined link on the right-hand side.

```
div#navigation {                                     inspector-stylesheet:1
}
```

- In the inspector style sheet, make sure you have the following three lines before continuing:

```
inspector-stylesheet* x
1  div#navigation {}
2  div#navigation a {}
3  div#navigation a:hover {}
```

- In the brackets following the first selector, `div#navigation`, press the enter key. It should start a new line with a hanging indent and also move the second bracket to its own line, indicating where the changes end. It should look as follows:

```
inspector-stylesheet* x
1  div#navigation {
2
3  }
4  div#navigation a {}
5  div#navigation a:hover {}
```

8. Add the following lines, verbatim, between those brackets, making sure that you don't leave out any punctuation or put any additional items that aren't necessary:

```
inspector-stylesheet* X
1  div#navigation {
2      display: flex;
3      flex-flow: row nowrap;
4      justify-content: space-evenly;
5      width: 100vw;
6  }
7  div#navigation a {}
8  div#navigation a:hover {}
```

Line 2 indicates the method of display for the navigation bar containing our buttons. It utilizes the flex box methodology to automatically distribute all the items inside the container (div).

Line 3 indicates the direction in which the items will flex/distribute, in a row and without wrapping to the next line, if they extend past the edge of the screen.

Line 4 indicates how the items will distribute themselves.

Line 5 should be self-explanatory, minus the “vw” measurement. VW, as a form of measurement in CSS, stands for Viewport Width, which is a measurement of the size of the window that you're viewing a webpage in.

9. After that, add the following lines for the anchor tag (a), otherwise known as hyperlink, elements contained within the navigation bar.

```
7  div#navigation a {
8      text-decoration: none;
9      color: black;
10     background-color: #90cd90;
11     padding: .25em .5em;
12     border: solid .15em;
13     border-radius: .5em;
14     transition: .5s background-color;
15 }
```

Line 8 removes the underline on the hyperlinks.

Line 9 changes the default blue color of the links to black.

Line 10 changes the background color to a tint of green. At this point, notice that there are squares next to the colors we've typed in. If you want to change the colors to something more specific, simply click the square and use the color selection window that pops up.

Line 11 adds some padding, internal spacing, to the element between the content, the text, and the element's border.

Line 12 adds a solid border to the element. Because we didn't specify a border color here, which is possible, it defaults to the color of the text contained in the button.

Line 13 adds curvature to the border. In other words, it makes it more rounded. The “em” measurement used in this section of the code, is a measurement based on the size of the text and is commonly used in making responsive webpages, ones that will resize themselves in relation to the screen they're displayed on.

Line 14 creates a half-second smooth transition effect on the background of the buttons we've just established.

10. The last change we need to add is the hover effect.

```
16  div#navigation a:hover {
17      background-color: green;
18  }
```

What this does is make it so that when you move your mouse cursor over one of the links, it changes the attributes of that element to whatever you changed them to within the `:hover` section of your CSS.

11. With that, all that's left to do is transfer those changes back to your original HTML file, so with your HTML document opened in Notepad++ (or whatever text editor you're using), add the following line of code into the head section of the document:

```
2  <head>
3    <title>Button Links Demo</title>
4    <style>|</style>
5  </head>
```

12. Copy the CSS you just typed out in the web browser and paste it between the two style tags to just wrote into your HTML file. The end result should look as follows:

```
1  <!doctype html>
2  <head>
3    <title>Button Links Demo</title>
4    <style>
5      div#navigation {
6        display: flex;
7        flex-flow: row nowrap;
8        justify-content: space-evenly;
9        width: 100vw;
10     }
11     div#navigation a {
12       text-decoration: none;
13       color: black;
14       background-color: #90cd90;
15       padding: .25em .5em;
16       border: solid .15em;
17       border-radius: .5em;
18       transition: .5s background-color;
19     }
20     div#navigation a:hover {
21       background-color: green;
22     }
23   </style>
24 </head>
25 <body>
26   <div id="navigation">
27     <a href="#">Link 1</a>
28     <a href="#">Link 2</a>
29     <a href="#">Link 3</a>
30   </div>
31 </body>
```

13. With all that being done, you can now save the HTML document one last time. This will ensure that the next time you open the file, all the changes you made previously will be included, and it will display all the visual styling you previously applied.